



HER MOTHER AND FATHER
Moses M. Mecham and Elvira Derby Mecham

We girls gleaned wheat and picked ground-cherries and any kind of work we could find to do, but people were poor and could not pay for work. I went to work for a lady in Spanish Fork. I stayed with her for several weeks, then she told me she could not pay me unless I took her wedding ring. She wanted twenty dollars for it. I told her I could not, as I had borrowed the dress I had and must pay for it. I then went to work for Mrs. Bigelow where I learned to spin and weave and I wove on shares and made me a dress. I bought one ounce Indigo for blue, cottonwood, and mahogany bark to

Leonidas Moses Worthen Mecham was born July 22, 1804, at Canaan, Grafton County, New Hampshire, son of Joshua Mecham and Permella Chapman. He married Elvira Derby on November 28, 1827. She was born in Grafton County to John Derby and Sarah Currier on November 6, 1811.

Shortly after their marriage, Moses and Elvira moved to Mercer, Pennsylvania. Here seven children were born. Then they moved to Kendrick, Iowa, where their child America was born. The glowing reports of the Oregon country started them westward.

In Iowa he engaged in the mercantile business, being very successful and prosperous. During 1838 he learned that his father's family and Joshua had joined the Church. Moses became much worried, for he had seen what bloodthirsty mobs had done where he lived.

He studied hard the LDS belief to see why his people had joined, but it seemed he could not obtain a testimony to the truthfulness of the gospel. One night he startled the members of his family by speaking in tongues. They had never heard such a thing before and supposed that he was delirious. While speaking in tongues he took the old family Bible and read from it, still speaking in tongues. His wife understood and started reading the passages to the family as he turned from one section to another in the Bible, all dealing with the restoration of the gospel. This experience convinced them that the gospel was true and they decided to apply for baptism. They

traveled to Columbus, Adams County, Illinois, and early in March, 1839, he and members of his family were baptized by Elder James Tomlinson at Nauvoo, Illinois.

After joining the Church, Moses and his family returned to Lee, Iowa. During this period he met persecution along with the rest of the saints, losing his mercantile business and other possessions. Moses, along with his father, Joshua, and his son, Clinton, had the privilege on several occasions to act as a bodyguard for the Prophet Joseph Smith.

On June 29, 1849, Moses was ordained a Seventy by Elder Joseph Young. On December 30, 1845, he and Elvira were sealed to each other, along with other members of their family, in the Nauvoo Temple.

They moved to Van Buren, Iowa, then to Council Bluffs. In 1853, Moses, Elvira and the unmarried children moved to Utah Valley, settling at Lehi, where he had charge of the toll gate at Jordan Narrows for about a year. Their last child was born there.

From Lehi they moved to Provo, where Moses taught school several years. He had his feelings hurt through a misunderstanding with a leader in the Church, which he couldn't bring himself around to forgiving. This caused him to lose the gift he had been blest with from the time of his conversion, that of speaking in tongues. He quit teaching school and moved to the mouth of Provo Canyon as toll keeper. Here he planted an orchard and garden. The young trees just started to bear when a flash flood cut a channel through his little farm and destroyed most of it.

This experience humbled him and gave him the spirit of forgiveness, thus helping him to become happy again. His health was very poor the last years of his life.

A few nights before his death he told his daughter Martha that she could speak in tongues if she desired, which she did immediately, strengthening the testimony of the family.

HUSBAND: Moses Worthen MECHAM (AFN:1FCP-D1)

BORN: 19 Feb 1804 PLACE: Canaan, Grafton, NH LDS ORDINANCE DATA
 CHR.: PLACE: B: 30 Oct 1967
 DIED: 22 Jul 1878 PLACE: Provo, Utah, UT E: 30 Dec 1845 NV
 BUR.: 26 Jul 1878 PLACE: Provo, Utah, UT SP: 10 May 1951 AZ
 MAR.: 8 Nov 1827 PLACE: Mercer, Mercer, PA SS: 7 Feb 1846 NV
 FATHER: Joshua MEACHAM (AFN:2TCN-T0)
 MOTHER: Permelia CHAPMAN (AFN:2QVJ-7N)
 OTHER WIVES:

WIFE: Elvira DERBY (AFN:1FCP-F6)

BORN: 6 Nov 1811 PLACE: Hanover, Grafton, NH
 CHR.: PLACE: B: 28 Sep 1967
 DIED: 28 Apr 1886 PLACE: Provo, Utah, UT E: 30 Jul 1845
 BUR.: 1 May 1886 PLACE: Provo, Utah, UT SP: 3 Sep 1963
 FATHER: John DERBY (AFN:2B3S-W1)
 MOTHER: Sarah CURRIER (AFN:2B3S-X6)
 OTHER HUSBANDS:

Sex CHILDREN

1. NAME: Leonidus Clifton MECHAM (AFN:5S51-OG) BORN: 20 Aug 1828 PLACE: Delaware, Mercer, PA M CHR.: PLACE: DIED: 20 Aug 1883 PLACE: Riverdale, Oneida, ID BUR.: 23 Aug 1883 PLACE: Franklin, Franklin, ID SPOUSE: Margaret Emma CHAMPLIN (AFN:1DF4-5L) and 1 Others MAR.: 25 Feb 1851 PLACE: Kanesville, Pottawatomie, IA	B: 30 Oct 1967 E: 14 Sep 1861 EH SP: SUBMITTED SS: 14 Sep 1861 EH
2. NAME: Sarah MECHAM (AFN:19B2-HJ) BORN: 11 Aug 1829 PLACE: Harrisbury, Mercer, PA F CHR.: PLACE: DIED: 26 Jan 1890 PLACE: Spring City, Sanpete, UT BUR.: 1890 PLACE: Spring City, Sanpete, UT SPOUSE: Lutellus BURDICK (AFN:18H7-9M) MAR.: 8 Jan 1854 PLACE: Lehi, Utah, UT	B: 28 Nov 1967 E: 8 Jun 1906 SL SP: 11 Nov 1953 SS: 11 Nov 1952 Mt 19
3. NAME: Samuel MECHAM (AFN:2K59-T9) BORN: 9 Feb 1831 PLACE: Delaware, Mercer, PA M CHR.: PLACE: DIED: 25 Jan 1877 PLACE: BUR.: PLACE: SPOUSE: MAR.: PLACE:	B: 9 Apr 1878 E: 12 Apr 1878 SG SP: 8 Aug 1955 LG SS:
4. NAME: Mormon MECHAM (AFN:2K59-VG) BORN: 17 Apr 1832 PLACE: Delaware, Mercer, PA M CHR.: PLACE: DIED: 17 Apr 1832 PLACE: , Mercer, PA BUR.: PLACE: , Mercer, PA SPOUSE: MAR.: PLACE:	B: CHILD E: CHILD SP: 8 Aug 1955 LG SS:

Codes: AFN=Ancestral File Number B=Baptized E=Endowed SS=Sealed to Spouse SP=Sealed to Parents

=====

HUSBAND: Moses Worthen MECHAM (AFN:1FCP-D1)

BORN: 19 Feb 1804

WIFE: Elvira DERBY (AFN:1FCP-F6)

BORN: 6 Nov 1811

=====

LDS ORDINANCE DATA

=====

5. NAME: Polly MECHAM (AFN:1FCP-8B)

----- BORN: 15 Mar 1833 PLACE: Delaware, Mercer, PA

B: 5 Jun 1879

F CHR.: PLACE:

E: 19 Sep 1861 EH

DIED: 17 Nov 1920 PLACE: Preston, Franklin, ID

SP: 8 Aug 1955 LG

BUR.: Nov 1920 PLACE: Franklin, Franklin, ID

SPOUSE: James PACKER SR (AFN:1FCP-75)

MAR.: 14 Feb 1854 PLACE: Lehi, Utah, UT

SS: 19 Sep 1861 EH

=====

6. NAME: Emilie MECHAM (AFN:4276-KQ)

----- BORN: 9 Jun 1834 PLACE: Mercer, PA

B: 26 Oct 1867

F CHR.: PLACE:

E: 22 Apr 1857 EH

DIED: 5 Nov 1861 PLACE: Provo, Utah County, UT

SP: 11 Nov 1953 MT

BUR.: PLACE: Provo, Utah, UT

SPOUSE: William HAWS (AFN:1Z2S-ZJ)

MAR.: 22 Apr 1857 PLACE: Salt Lake City, UT

SS: 22 Apr 1857 EH

=====

7. NAME: Americas MECHAM (AFN:4FV0-6Q)

----- BORN: 20 Dec 1835 PLACE: Delaware, Mercer, PA

B: CHILD

M CHR.: PLACE:

E: CHILD

DIED: 12 Nov 1837 PLACE: Kendrick, , IA

SP: Jul 1884

BUR.: PLACE: Kendrick, , IA

SPOUSE:

MAR.: PLACE:

SS:

=====

8. NAME: America MECHAM (AFN:2K59-XS)

----- BORN: 11 Oct 1837 PLACE: Liberty, Henricks, IA

B: 2 May 1881

F CHR.: PLACE:

E: 8 Nov 1889

DIED: 20 Aug 1917 PLACE: Jensen, Uintah, UT

SP: 8 Aug 1955 LG

BUR.: 21 Aug 1917 PLACE: Vernal Uintah, UT

SPOUSE: Heber Evert ORSER (AFN:4NHJ-1F)

MAR.: 13 Aug 1857 PLACE: Provo, Utah, UT

SS: 28 Nov 1934

=====

9. NAME: Martha MECHAM (AFN:45LW-WP)

----- BORN: 23 Feb 1839 PLACE: Columbus, Adams, IL

B: 1 Dec 1852

F CHR.: PLACE:

E: 1 Mar 1860

DIED: 23 Dec 1924 PLACE: Patagonia, Santa Cruz, AZ

SP: 11 Nov 1953 MT

BUR.: Dec 1924 PLACE: Webb, Cochise, AZ

SPOUSE: Hiram BIGELOW (AFN:3Q9W-GN) and 1 Others

MAR.: 12 Dec 1856 PLACE: Provo, Utah, UT

SS: 12 Dec 1860

=====

10. NAME: Lucina MECHAM (AFN:2K59-Z0)

----- BORN: 11 Mar 1841 PLACE: , Lee Co., IA

B: 26 Oct 1867

F CHR.: PLACE:

E: 7 Mar 1870

DIED: 21 Jun 1925 PLACE: Provo, Utah, UT

SP: 11 Nov 1953 MT

BUR.: 24 Jun 1925 PLACE: Provo, Utah, UT

SPOUSE: William Jasper BOREN [SR]/ (AFN:1NNS-ZR)

MAR.: 3 Jul 1859 PLACE: , Provo, Utah, Utah

SS: 7 Mar 1870 EH

=====

Codes: AFN=Ancestral File Number

B=Baptized

E=Endowed

SS=Sealed to Spouse

SP=Sealed to Parents

=====

HUSBAND: Moses Worthen MECHAM (AFN:1FCP-D1)

BORN: 19 Feb 1804

WIFE: Elvira DERBY (AFN:1FCP-F6)

BORN: 6 Nov 1811

=====

LDS ORDINANCE DATA

=====

11. NAME: Elvira MECHAM (AFN:4276-N8)
----- BORN: 4 Mar 1843 PLACE: Montrose, Lee, IA
F CHR.: PLACE:
DIED: 4 Jan 1920 PLACE: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, UT
BUR.: 7 Jan 1920 PLACE: Provo, Utah, UT
SPOUSE: Moroni BIGELOW (AFN:1HNJ-41) and 3 Others
MAR.: 23 Aug 1863 PLACE:

B: 26 Oct 1967
E: 18 Oct 1869 EH
SP: 8 Aug 1955 LG

SS: 18 Oct 1869 EH

=====

12. NAME: Moses Moroni MECHAM (AFN:4BXN-MQ)
----- BORN: 11 Jul 1845 PLACE: Nauvoo, Hancock, IL
M CHR.: PLACE:
DIED: 16 Mar 1928 PLACE: Jensen, Uintah, UT
BUR.: 18 Mar 1928 PLACE: Vernal, Uintah, UT
SPOUSE: Almira Jane DUKE (AFN:1CVV-HM) and 1 Others
MAR.: 26 Dec 1875 PLACE: Wallisburg, Wasatch, UT

B: 1 Sep 1878
E: 4 Nov 1885 L
SP: 8 Aug 1955 LG

SS: 4 Nov 1885 L

=====

13. NAME: William Wallace MECHAM (AFN:2K5B-2G)
----- BORN: 22 Apr 1847 PLACE: Van Buren, Van Buren, IA
M CHR.: PLACE:
DIED: Aug 1847 PLACE: Van Buren, , IA
BUR.: Aug 1847 PLACE: Van Buren, , IA
SPOUSE:
MAR.: PLACE:

B: CHILD
E: CHILD
SP: 8 Aug 1955 LG

SS:

=====

14. NAME: Celestia Ann MECHAM (AFN:4FV0-7W)
----- BORN: 12 Sep 1848 PLACE: Council Bluffs, Pottawattomie, IL
F CHR.: PLACE:
DIED: 11 Mar 1909 PLACE: Dayton, Franklin, ID
BUR.: 13 Mar 1909 PLACE: (Private Cemetery), Dayton, Franklin, ID
SPOUSE: George Madison MENDENHALL (AFN:19DF-QN)
MAR.: 28 Sep 1867 PLACE: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, UT

B: 26 Oct 1967
E: 28 Sep 1867 EH
SP: 8 Aug 1955 LG

SS: 28 Sep 1867 EH

=====

15. NAME: John Derby MECHAM (AFN:2K5B-4S)
----- BORN: 30 Apr 1850 PLACE: Council Bluff, Pottawattamie, Ai
M CHR.: PLACE:
DIED: 15 Jan 1932 PLACE: Altonah, Duchesne, UT
BUR.: 18 Jan 1932 PLACE: Altonah, Duchesne, UT
SPOUSE: Agnes Jane MC CARREL (AFN:1QLK-38)
MAR.: Oct 1882 PLACE: Vernal, Uintah, UT

B: 30 Sep 1936
E: 6 Oct 1936
SP: 8 Aug 1955 LG

SS: 1 Mar 1957

=====

16. NAME: Donna Maria MECHAM (AFN:2K5B-50)
----- BORN: 15 Apr 1852 PLACE: Council Bluffs, Pottawattamie, IA
F CHR.: PLACE:
DIED: 13 May 1935 PLACE: Provo, Utah, UT
BUR.: 16 May 1935 PLACE: Provo City Cemetary, ,
SPOUSE: Joshua Josiah MEACHAM (AFN:4WMM-J5)
MAR.: 21 Nov 1870 PLACE: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, UT

B: 26 Oct 1967
E: 21 Nov 1870 EH
SP: 8 Aug 1955

SS: 21 Nov 1870 EH

=====

Codes: AFN=Ancestral File Number

B=Baptized

E=Endowed

SS=Sealed to Spouse

SP=Sealed to Parents

=====

HUSBAND: Moses Worthen MECHAM (AFN:1FCP-D1)

BORN: 19 Feb 1804

WIFE: Elvira DERBY (AFN:1FCP-F6)

BORN: 6 Nov 1811

=====

Sex CHILDREN (Continued)

LDS ORDINANCE DATA

=====

17. NAME: Marquis Lafayette MECHAM (AFN:5S51-2S)

---- BORN: 9 Feb 1855 PLACE: Lehi, Utah, UT

B: CHILD

M CHR.: PLACE:

E: CHILD

DIED: 2 Mar 1856 PLACE: Lehi, Utah, UT

SP: BIC

BUR.: PLACE: Lehi, Utah, UT

SPOUSE:

MAR.: PLACE:

SS:

18. NAME:

---- BORN: PLACE:

B:

CHR.: PLACE:

E:

DIED: PLACE:

SP:

BUR.: PLACE:

SPOUSE:

MAR.: PLACE:

SS:

19. NAME:

---- BORN: PLACE:

B:

CHR.: PLACE:

E:

DIED: PLACE:

SP:

BUR.: PLACE:

SPOUSE:

MAR.: PLACE:

SS:

20. NAME:

---- BORN: PLACE:

B:

CHR.: PLACE:

E:

DIED: PLACE:

SP:

BUR.: PLACE:

SPOUSE:

MAR.: PLACE:

SS:

21. NAME:

---- BORN: PLACE:

B:

CHR.: PLACE:

E:

DIED: PLACE:

SP:

BUR.: PLACE:

SPOUSE:

MAR.: PLACE:

SS:

22. NAME:

---- BORN: PLACE:

B:

CHR.: PLACE:

E:

DIED: PLACE:

SP:

BUR.: PLACE:

SPOUSE:

MAR.: PLACE:

SS:

=====

Codes: AFN=Ancestral File Number

B=Baptized

E=Endowed

SS=Sealed to Spouse

SP=Sealed to Parents

=====

HUSBAND: Moses Worthen MECHAM (AFN:1FCP-D1)

BORN: 19 Feb 1804

WIFE: Elvira DERBY (AFN:1FCP-F6)

BORN: 6 Nov 1811

=====

OTHER MARRIAGES

LDS ORDINANCE DATA

=====

CHILD 1: Leonidus Clifton MECHAM (AFN:5S51-0G)

SPOUSE: Sophia DUFFIN (AFN:1BJX-WV)

MAR.: 9 Oct 1871

PLACE: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, UT

SS: 9 Oct 1871 EH

CHILD 9: Martha MECHAM (AFN:45LW-WP)

SPOUSE: Hyrum BIGLOW (AFN:P5KZ-CP)

MAR.:

PLACE:

SS:

CHILD 11: Elvira MECHAM (AFN:4276-N8)

SPOUSE: Asa Elijah BIGELOW (AFN:1HNJ-3T)

MAR.: 10 Oct 1872

PLACE: Endowment House, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, UT

SS:

SPOUSE: Lafayette BIGLOW (AFN:P5KZ-6T)

MAR.:

PLACE:

SS:

SPOUSE: Moroni BIGLOW (AFN:P5L2-9Q)

MAR.:

PLACE:

SS:

CHILD 12: Moses Moroni MECHAM (AFN:4BXN-MQ)

SPOUSE: Martha Elizabeth SMITH (AFN:1BHP-C2)

MAR.:

PLACE:

SS:

=====

Codes: AFN=Ancestral File Number B=Baptized E=Endowed SS=Sealed to Spouse SP=Sealed to Parents

=====

Copyright © 1987, August 1993 by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. All rights reserved.